

09/945146

C 25

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT NO.: 6,821,467 B2

DATED: November 23, 2004

INVENTORS: Wolfe, et al.

DOCKET NO.: MNRES-001XX

Certificate of Correction Branch
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Certificate
FEB 25 2005
of Correction

PETITION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.322

Dear Sirs:

Multi-National Resources, the Assignee of the above-identified patent, through its attorney, hereby petitions for issuance of a Certificate of Correction in the above-identified patent. A Certificate of Correction (PTO form 1050) is enclosed, in duplicate. The Certificate of Correction is required to correct a significant printing error occurring in Claim 5, as follows:

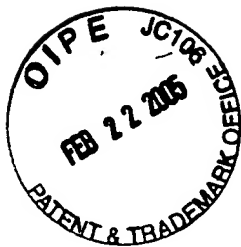
Claim 5, Column 6, line 47: Delete the word "sad" and insert the word --and--.

It is believed this error occurred through the fault of the Patent Office. Thus, this Certificate of Correction should be issued without charge to Applicants. A correct copy of Claim 5 appears in Amendment After Final Rejection Under Rule 116 on page 5, a copy of which is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Carroll
Reg. No. 36,384
Grossman, Tucker, Perreault & Pfleger
55 South Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101

MAR 02 2005



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 17, 2005, at Manchester, New Hampshire.

By Mary Boyd
Mary Boyd

MAR 02 2005

MAR 02 2005

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO : 6,821,467 B2

DATED : November 23, 2004

INVENTOR(S) : Wolfe, et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Claim 5, Column 6, line 47: Delete the word "sad" and insert the word --and--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER: Grossman, Tucker, Perreault & Pfleger, PLLC
55 South Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03301
603-668-6560

PATENT NO. 6,821,467 B2

No. of additional copies

→ 1

MAR 02 2005



**Reply under 37 CFR 1.116 –
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Technology Center 1732**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/945,146 Confirmation No. : 1601
Applicant : Wolfe, et al.
Filed : August 31, 2001
TC/A.U. : 1732
Examiner : A.Y. Ortiz
Docket No. : MNRES-001XX
Customer No. : 32047

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Carol McClelland July 8, 2004
Signature Date

Carol McClelland
(Type or Print Name of Person Signing Certificate)

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER RULE 116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 18, 2004, please amend the application as follows and consider the included remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A method of making a thin film keypad comprising:
forming at least one keycap attachment region on a thin film material, each said keycap attachment region including at least one molding material passage region, wherein forming said keycap attachment region includes cutting at least one flap from said thin film material to form said material passage region;

placing said thin film material into a molding tool having at least one keycap mold cavity such that each said molding material passage region is located within each said keycap mold cavity, respectively; and

injecting a molding material through said molding material passage region in said thin film material and into said keycap mold cavity such that at least one keycap is molded onto a top surface of said thin film material, and wherein said molding material flows around portions of said thin film material and hardens on opposite sides of said portions of said thin film material to form at least two anchor portions such that said keycap is mechanically secured to said thin film material, and wherein one of said anchor portions is formed by said molding material flowing around said flap and hardening on opposite sides of said flap.

Claim 23 (Original): The method of claim 22 further including cutting an outline of a retainer sheet from said thin film material such that said keycap is molded onto said retainer sheet.

Claim 24 (Original): The method of claim 22 wherein said molding material is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polycarbonate/ABS blend, and ABS.

Claim 25 (Original): The method of claim 22 wherein said thin film material is selected from the group consisting of a polycarbonate material and a polyester material.

Claim 26 (Previously Amended): The method of claim 23 wherein forming each said keycap attachment region includes forming at least one hole through said thin film material, and wherein said retainer sheet is placed in said molding tool with said hole positioned between said keycap mold cavity and an anchor mold cavity such that said molding material flows through each said hole and around an edge of said thin film material to form one of said anchor portions.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 22 [[27]] wherein said molding tool includes a gate for injecting said molding material, and wherein inserting said retainer sheet into said molding tool includes inserting said gate through said material passage region such that said gate moves said flap into said keycap mold cavity.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A method of making a thin film keypad comprising:
forming a plurality of keycap attachment regions on a thin film material, each of said keycap attachment regions including at least one hole and at least one material passage region, wherein said material passage regions are formed by cutting flaps from said thin film material;
placing said thin film material into a molding tool including a female side having keycap mold cavities and a male side having anchor mold cavities, wherein said male side of said molding tool includes gates for injecting said molding material, wherein said retainer sheet is positioned such that said holes are located between respective said keycap mold cavities and said anchor mold cavities and such that said material passage regions are located within respective said keycap mold cavities, and wherein said gates are inserted through respective said material passage regions such that said gates move respective said flaps into respective said keycap mold cavities; and

injecting a molding material through said material passage regions in said thin film material and into said keycap mold cavities, wherein said molding material flows through said holes around said flaps and into said anchor mold cavities such that keycaps are molded onto a top surface of said thin film material and are mechanically secured to said thin film material.

Claim 30 (Original): The method of claim 29 wherein said thin film material is selected from the group consisting of a polycarbonate material and a polyester material, and wherein said molding material includes ABS.

Claim 31 (Cancelled)

Claim 32 (Original): The method of claim 29 wherein forming said material passage regions includes forming formed hole portions from said thin film material, wherein said male side of said molding tool includes gates for injecting said molding material, and wherein inserting said thin film material into said molding tool includes inserting said gates through respective said material passage regions such that said molding material flows around said formed hole portions.

Claim 33 (Original): The method of claim 29 further including cutting an outline of a retainer sheet from said thin film material such that said keycaps are molded onto said retainer sheet.

Remarks/Arguments

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 27-28 and 31. Although applicant disagrees with the rejection, independent claims 1 and 29 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 27 and 31, respectively, in order to expedite allowance of the present application. Applicant makes this amendment without prejudice and reserves the right to pursue broader coverage.

Claims 22-26, 29, 30, 32, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,394,817 ("Asada") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,660,200 ("Nakajo"). In light of the amendments to the independent claims adding the allowable subject matter of claims 27 and 31, applicant submits that this rejection is moot. Accordingly, applicant requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that the amendment clearly places the claims into condition for allowance and no further consideration or search is required. Accordingly, applicant requests that the amendment be entered pursuant to 37 CFR 1.116.

Applicant believes that this paper is responsive to each and every ground of rejection cited by the Examiner in the Action dated May 18, 2004 and respectfully requests favorable action in this application. The examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-2121 (Reference Number MNRES-001XX).

Respectfully submitted,

GROSSMAN, TUCKER, PERREAULT &
PFLEGER PLLC

By: 

Kevin J. Carroll, Reg. No. 36,384

55 S. Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101
Telephone: (603) 668-6560
Facsimile: (603) 668-2970

Date: 7-8-04